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SITE SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

The Hummel Chemical site (CERCLIS ID No. NJD002174712) is located within a small industrial park (the Foundry Street Complex) located at 185 Foundry Street, in a heavily industrialized section of Newark, Essex County, New Jersey. Hummel Chemical Company (Hummel) formerly operated a chemical warehousing/distribution center at the site from the mid-1950s to the mid-1960s. Available background information indicates that Hummel leased the property from Norpak/Kem Realty Company during the mid-1960s. Subsequently, Hummel moved its operations to South Plainfield, New Jersey. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) lists Hummel-Lanolin Co. as Hummel's alias. There is a reported former Hummel-Lanolin facility located adjacent to the Foundry Street Complex; however, a site inspection conducted by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy Division of Hazardous Waste Management Bureau of Planning and Assessment (NJDEPE/DHWM/BPA) states that Hummel-Lanolin is not related to Hummel Chemical Co. The NJDEPE/DHWM/BPA also refers to the site as the 185 Foundry Street site (Ref. Nos. 1; 2, pp. 1, 2, 16).

The Foundry Street Complex is comprised of approximately 30 buildings which are in close proximity to one another. These buildings are separated by alleyways which were reported to receive surface runoff, and in some cases, direct discharges from some of the facilities. These alleyways are bisected by common storm drains. The complex is mostly covered with concrete or asphalt; however, there are several exposed surfaces. The exact building that Hummel occupied within the complex is unknown; however, Hummel officials speculated that it was Building No. 18 (Ref. No. 2, pp. 1, 87, 88). The exact location of Building No. 18 within the complex is also unknown.

The Foundry Street Complex has a long history of occupancy by a variety of chemical-related industries dating back to 1931. In the early 1930s H.A. Metz Laboratories manufactured unspecified drugs on site. In the 1950s, at least two companies (Chemical Industries Inc. and Arkansas Chemical Company) occupied the site. Operations at Chemical Industries Inc. are unknown. Background information indicates that they may have leased portions of the property to other chemical companies. Arkansas Chemical manufactured textile related chemicals in the extreme southern portion of the site until 1982. Other past operators within the Foundry Street Complex included Cellomar (a Division of Polychrome, Inc.), Diamond Shamrock, Essex Chemical Company, Coronet Chemical Company and Honig Chemical. Background information does not indicate the dates of operation for these companies nor the types of operations which occurred on site. Current operators at the Foundry Street Complex include Sun Chemical

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On 14 October 1988, the NJDEPE/DHWM/BPA conducted a sampling site inspection of the Foundry Street Complex, during which 15 soil, 4 surface water, and 5 sediment samples were collected from various portions of the site. These samples were analyzed for Hazardous Substance List plus 30 peaks (HSL + 30) which included volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides and metals. In addition, five soil samples were collected for analysis of the dioxin isomer 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-1,4-dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD). Field quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) samples included one field blank and one trip blank. Background information indicates that all samples were analyzed by Weston Analytical Laboratories. The sampling strategy implemented by NJDEPE/BPA was to evaluate the entire complex as one site. This was due to the close proximity of the various industries to one another as well as the fact that the exact location of the Hummel facility was not known (Ref. No. 2, pp. 89-104).

Several VOCs, SVOCs, pesticides, PCBs, metals and cyanide were detected in sediment samples collected from drainage ditches between several of the facilities. VOCs, SVOCs, pesticides and cyanide were detected in surface water samples collected from these drainage ditches. VOCs, SVOCs, pesticides, PCBs and metals were also detected in surface soil collected at various locations throughout the site (Ref. No. 2, pp. 3, 5-13). The dioxin isomer was not detected in any of the soil samples collected (Ref. No. 2, p. 3). Original data sheets for samples collected during the site inspection were not available in background information.

In the Site Inspection report completed by the NJDEPE/DHWM/BPA (dated December 1989) the site was assigned a low priority. Although several organic and inorganic contaminants were detected on site, the NJDEPE/DHWM/BPA concluded that the on-site contamination could not be attributed to Hummel's operations. This was due to Hummel's absence from the complex since the mid-1960s. It was further recommended that a responsible party (RP) search be conducted to identify previous owners and tenants. Following the RP search, it was recommended that the case be transferred to the NJDEPE/Bureau of Case Management for the initiation of cleanup activities (Ref. No. 2, p. 4). Background information does not indicate that any remedial activities have taken place since the NJDEPE/DHWM/BPA site inspection.

The existing information, data and additional information collected were sufficient to evaluate the site. This assessment indicated that the site poses a minimal threat to receptors in the vicinity of the site. Although there is a minimal amount of observed soil contamination on site, it is difficult to attribute any contamination to Hummel, as Hummel has not operated on site since the mid-1960s. Groundwater is not used for potable purposes within 4 miles of the site.

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Company, Avon Drum Company, Fleet Auto Electric, Automatic Electroplating, Conus Chemical Company and CWC Industries (Ref. No. 2, pp. 1, 87).

During its occupancy on site, Hummel operated a warehouse/distribution center for the wholesaling of chemicals. Background information does not indicate the exact operations or storage/disposal methods utilized at the site; however, it does state that it is likely that operations included the reacting and mixing of chemicals, most of which were in the powdered form. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's publication "Dioxins" (EPA-600/2-80-197, November 1980) lists several Class III dioxin precursors as having been present at Hummel's Newark, New Jersey location. These compounds included 2,4-dinitrophenoxyethanol, 3,5-dinitrosalicylic acid, hexachlorobenzene and picric acid. It is unknown as to what other substances may have been present on site. Substances used at Hummel's South Plainfield facility, which are suspected to have also been used at the Newark facility, include the following:

2,4-dinitrophenol	hydrazine	rosin acid
hexachloroethane	lead nitrate	sodium hydroxide
lead dioxide	lead chromate	toluene
barium chromate	zinc oxide	resorcinol
ethylene glycol	arsenic	cupric oxide
isopropanol	ammonium oxalate	methanol
nitric acid	oxalic acid	acetone
antimony trisulfide	lead thiocyanate	

Background information indicates that Hummel did not possess any federal or state permits for groundwater or surface water discharges from their Newark facility. It is believed that poor housekeeping and operational practices may have occurred at the Newark facility as Hummel had a history of such practices at their South Plainfield facility (Ref. No. 2, pp. 1, 2, 57, 58, 62-67). For the purposes of this report, contaminated soil will be evaluated as the waste source for this site.

On 7 October 1988 a Presampling Assessment (PSA) of the Foundry Street Complex was conducted by the NJDEPE/DHWM/BPA. During this assessment, most of the exposed soil at the site appeared to be stained and saturated with chemicals. Pools of multicolored chemicals were observed as well as drums of hazardous substances. Several leaking drums were observed to be present in unsecured areas which lacked secondary containment (Ref. No. 2, pp. 87, 88).

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Surface runoff within the Foundry Street Complex flows to common storm drains which discharge to a combined sanitary/stormwater system, except in the case of overflow conditions, when storm water is diverted to an overflow facility which discharges to the Passaic River. The dilution potential of the Passaic River as well as the coastal tidal waters within the 15-mile surface water migration pathway minimizes the potential for a release to surface water. Although there is observed soil contamination, there are no residences, schools, or day care centers within 200 feet of the site. Based on an evaluation of these conditions, a recommendation of **SITE EVALUATION ACCOMPLISHED (SEA)** is hereby given for the Hummel Chemical site.